

THE HONORABLE JOHN C. COUGHENOUR

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON  
AT SEATTLE

JOHN LESTER COX,

Plaintiff,

v.

MIRA NARKIEWICZ, *et al.*,

Defendants.

CASE NO. C19-1486-JCC

ORDER

This matter comes before the Court on Plaintiff John Lester Cox's motion for an extension of time to object to Magistrate Judge Peterson's Report and Recommendation (Dkt. No. 30). Having thoroughly considered the parties' briefing and the relevant record, the Court hereby GRANTS in part and DENIES in part the motion.

On November 10, 2020 Magistrate Judge Peterson filed a Report and Recommendation ("R&R") recommending that the Court dismiss Mr. Cox's First Amendment and Eighth Amendment claims with prejudice. (*See* Dkt. No. 29.) Magistrate Judge Peterson set the deadline for Mr. Cox to object for twenty-one days after the R&R was filed. (*See id.* at 22.) Accordingly, Mr. Cox's deadline to object was December 1, 2020.

Before that deadline expired, Mr. Cox moved for a 52-day extension because he learned after the R&R was filed that he has a mass on his thyroid that will need to be biopsied. (*See* Dkt. No. 30 at 1, 4–5.) Defendants do not oppose a 30-day extension, but object to the full extension

Mr. Cox has requested. (*See* Dkt. No. 31.)

In his motion, Mr. Cox asserts that “there are multiple invasive procedures planned” but does not provide any details about the nature or timing of those procedures. (Dkt. No. 30 at 1.) The medical documentation attached to his motion shows that doctors recommend Mr. Cox undergo a fine needle aspiration. (*See id.* at 4.) That documentation says that the procedure “can take anywhere from 15-60 minutes” and that afterward Mr. Cox “may have soreness for 1-2 days.” (*Id.* at 5.) It also says that this procedure “almost never results in complications” and that “[p]atients often return home or go back to work after the biopsy, without any ill effects.” (*Id.*)

Based on this record, the Court finds good cause to extend the deadline for 35 days but does not find good cause for the 52-day extension Plaintiff requests.<sup>1</sup> Accordingly, the Court GRANTS in part and DENIES in part Mr. Cox’s motion and EXTENDS the deadline to object to the R&R to Tuesday, January 5, 2021.

DATED this 30th day of December 2020.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "John C. Coughenour", written over a horizontal line.

John C. Coughenour  
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

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<sup>1</sup> Defendants argue that the Court may not extend the deadline unless it finds “excusable neglect” as required by Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 6(b)(1)(B). However, because Mr. Cox filed his motion “before the original time” to object to the R&R “expire[d],” the Court may grant the motion upon a finding of good cause. Fed. R. Civ. P. 6(b)(1)(A).